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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In re application of

Docket No: Q63997

MAR 31 2004

Hachirou HONDA, et al.

Technology Center 2000

Appln. No.: 09/828,467

Group Art Unit: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Confirmation No.: 6755

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: April 09, 2001

For: PRODUCTION MATERIALS PRODUCTION SUPPORTING APPARATUS, PRINTING MATERIALS PRINTING MATERIALS PRODUCTION SUPPORTING APPARATUS, PRINTING MATERIALS PRODUCTION SUPPORTING SYSTEM, AND PRINTING MATERIALS PRODUCTION SUPPORTING PROGRAM

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4-5-04

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and that the communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Darryl Moxic
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SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 30, 2004



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

MAR 31 2004

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith. Also, enclosed is a European Office Action in a corresponding European Patent Application, citing the references enclosed with this IDS.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/828,467
Attorney Docket No.: Q63997

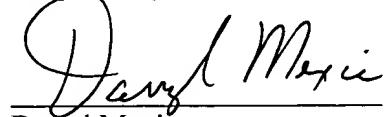
continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a statement can be made, a statement is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from the communication from a foreign patent office and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d) is attached.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		<i>Complete if Known</i>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	09/828,467
		Confirmation Number	6755
		Filing Date	April 09, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Hachirou HONDA
		Art Unit	NOT YET ASSIGNED
		Examiner Name	NOT YET ASSIGNED
		Attorney Docket Number	Q63997

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENT		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.
		Andreoli, et al., "AllianceNet: Information Sharing, Negotiation and Decision-Making for Distributed Organizations", ELECTRONIC COMMERCE AND WEB TECHNOLOGIES FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, EC-WEB 2000, Greenwich, UK, September 2000, Online!, pages 1-7, XP002269578, retrieved from the Internet: URL: http://www.xrce.xerox.com/Publications/Attachments/1999-034/paper.pdf.gz , retrieved on 2/6/2004!

Examiner Signature _____ **Date Considered** _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.